

Message Text

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17

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03

INR-07 NSAE-00 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-01 CEA-01 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8353

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 0951

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, IBRD, KS

SUBJECT: IBRD ECONOMIC SURVEY MISSION

REF: SEOUL 0947

1. FIVE-MAN IBRD ECONOMIC SURVEY MISSION TO KOREA CONCLUDED FOUR-WEEK VISIT FEBRUARY 13. ACCORDING TO TEAM LEADER, RICHARD DOSIK, THEIR REPORT WILL EXPRESS CONFIDENCE IN LONGER-TERM GROWTH PROSPECTS AND CONCERN OVER 1975 BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OUTLOOK. TEAM DEVELOPED ESTIMATES SIMILAR TO EMBASSY BOP ESTIMATES REPORTED REFTEL, WHICH INDICATE MUCH LARGER CURRENT ACCOUNT DEFICIT AND MUCH GREATER NEED FOR LONG-TERM CASH AND COMMODITY LOANS THAN IN OFFICIAL ROK FORECAST FOR 1975. REPORT WILL BE BRIEFER THAN USUAL AND WILL CONCENTRATE ON 1975 PROSPECTS IN VIEW OF WORLD UNCERTAINTIES.

2. DOSIK SAID THAT UPON HIS RETURN HE WILL PRESS HARD FOR IMMEDIATE APPROVAL OF \$75 MILLION PROGRAM LOAN, WHICH HAS BEEN DELAYED FOR UNKNOWN REASONS. HE VIEWS FIRST HALF BOP DEFICIT AS MOST CRITICAL FACTOR IN 1975 BUT DOES NOT SEE ANY IMMEDIATE RELIEF IN
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SIGHT, EITHER THROUGH EXPORT RECOVERY OR NEW FINANCING SOURCES.

3. TEAM HOPES TO HAVE REPORT READY FOR REVIEW BY

ROKG IN LATE APRIL AND FOR DISTRIBUTION WELL IN
ADVANCE OF CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING, TENTATIVELY
SCHEDULED FOR PARIS IN EARLY JULY.
SNEIDER

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FINANCING SOURCES.

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